

An APE can climb a tree,



The BEAR looks like a hog;



C
This CAT has skittens, three,

Bucks County

September 1973



PANORAMA



And JACK-ALS some - times play,



The KITE a-bove the steeple flies;



L
The LION seeks his prey.



M
The MOUSE has soft and silk-y hair,



N The bird is on her NEST,



The OWL'S eyes seem at us to stare;



P
The PIG
lies down
to rest.



These
QUAILS
fly near the ground,



R
The ROB-IN
comes with
spring,



S
The SNAIL a
la-zy worm
is found,



The
TOR - TOISE
can-not sing.



The
UNI - CORN
has but one
horn;



W
The WOLFS
skin as a
coat is worn,



Y
The YEW is
ev-er green,
And like the
oak in size;



Z
The ZEBRA
o'er the plain
From his pursu-ers flies.

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Bucks County PANORAMA

— The Magazine of Bucks County —

ESTABLISHED 1959

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ON THE COVER: A partial showing of the Alphabet as found in The Union Spelling Book by the American Sunday School Union of Philadelphia in the year 1838.

CALENDAR

EVENTS

Courtesy of the Bucks County Historical-Tourist Commission

SEPTEMBER, 1973

- 1-15 LAHASKA - Peddlers Village Players will present "Perils on the Pecos," Cabaret Theatre style at the new theatre location on Pollywogs Porch in the Cock 'n Bull Restaurant. Evening performances. For information call 794-8184, 862-5769.
- NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP Polish Festival 1,2,3,8,9 and Country Fair. Annually at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Ferry Road. Free Admission. Parking Charge \$2.00 for cars, \$5.00 for buses. Events begin at Noon each day; ending at 9 p.m.
- 7 BRISTOL — Concert, sponsored by the Bristol Lions Club, held at Lion's Park, at the foot of Mill Street. 9 p.m. The Andreyer Balalaika Group.
- 8 YARDLEY - Yardley Harvest Day, Annual event - something for the entire family.
- SELLERSVILLE 5th Annual "Gallery in the Park," art show, sponsored by the Pennridge Jaycettes to be held outdoors in Lake Lenape Park. For additional information - call Mrs. Barbara Rufe, 509 S. 5th St., Perkasie — 257-7324. Benefit Bucks County Association for Retarded Children in Sellersville.
- LANGHORNE Archery Tournament and Turkey Shoot at Core Creek County Park. Call for information 757-0571.
- BRISTOL Model Sailboat Race, Silver Lake Park, Bath Road. Call for information. 785-1177.
- RICHLANDTOWN 14th Annual Homecoming Day of the Richland Historical Society (Shelly School). For information call 536-5324, 536-5119. Afternoon.

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HIGHWAYS ARE HISTORY

by Warren E. Laskowski

The day was cool and a sudden change in the wind sent the hurried travelers scurrying to the near-by taverns and inns. When the storm had subsided and the weather broke, the roads were muddy, rutted and in some places impassable. These roadways gradually evolved into our modern highway system which for the most part follows the same routes laid out by the early dirt roads and turnpikes. These are the highways that are history in Bucks County.

Even before the first white man came to what is now known as Bucks County, the land was a criss-crossed maze of Indian paths and animal trails. These trails and paths, although only about eighteen inches wide, probably were used as the first roads by the early settlers in Bucks. P. A. Wallace points out in his book Indians in Pennsylvania that: "There were paths for all weather, wet and dry, hot and cold; and for all kinds of people, hunters, warriors, messengers (runners), diplomats and even family parties crossing the mountains to visit friends. Most of the paths were narrow and just sufficient for persons moving in single file. A few paths . . . were wide enough for two men to walk abreast."

William Penn realized that for his colony to grow and prosper a good system of highways was a necessity. As more and more settlers came to the colony, new roads were needed that led inland. Many farmers were fairly well settled and needed the roads to take their grain to the mills and later to market. The influx of many European goods and the growing trade in fur and raw materials also stirred the need for well developed highways. So from the very beginning Penn placed a levy on the buying of land. Six percent of the total cost of the property was to be set aside for the construction of highways.

The first mention of road construction in Bucks County was in the year 1677. A maintenance and improvement program was ordered by the First Court on King's Road or the Philadelphia-Bristol-Trenton Pike. The pike, now the equivalent of U.S. 13, went north from Philadelphia paralleling the Delaware River to the falls where it crossed to Morrisville, New Jersey, passing through Bristol. In 1689 another bill was passed that ordered the pike to be laid out as a "Cart Road" suitable for wagons.

The county courts in the Act of 1700 authorized highways to be built with a width of fifty feet, free of trees and brush. These were called "King's Highways" and confusingly many different roads of that



time adopted the name of King's Highway.

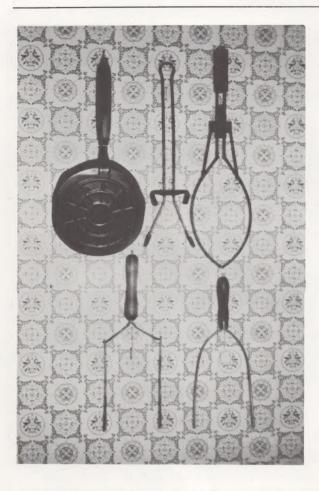
In 1700 the residents of the North and Southampton areas complained to the county court that there were no major highways in the area. They were granted a supervisor of roads in 1703. But the roads came slowly in this area probably because highways were already being built on either side of the county from Philadelphia northward to New York State. Even as late as 1722 there were complaints of no established roadways in the area.

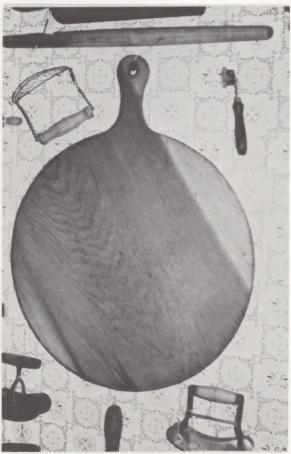
The need for a road that would lead northward through the center of Bucks County was recognized as early as 1693. Therefore Durham Road was constructed to connect the remote farming settlements of the inner county with Philadelphia and Bristol. It eventually extended northward to the outermost corner of the county, acting as the main route to Wrightstown through Middletown. This road helped push the settling of the central and upper parts of Bucks. This "King's Road" reached Buckingham around 1703 and Plumstead in 1726. The Durham Highway received its name from the Durham Iron Works which was noted for its unique deposits of ore and limestone. The owner of the works raised a petition in 1744 to extend the highway eastward to the iron works to help economize the cost of transportation of the materials. The Durham Iron Works became one of the most important industries in the county at that time. Much of the iron was used to make rifles and shot during the Revolutionary War and later to make ornamental iron works on houses in Philadelphia and New Orleans.

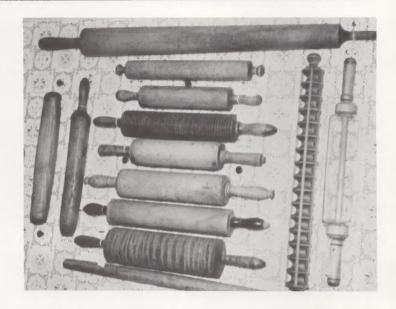
Taverns played a major role in the early construction of roads. The Bustleton Turnpike was built from Philadelphia to the Buck tavern in Feasterville around 1693. It was extended to Churchville in 1795 and finally in 1804 to the Bear tavern in Richboro (then referred to as Addisville). Usually the taverns were situated about one day's journey apart.

Old York Road was initiated on the request of Buckingham and Solebury Townships. They desired a more direct route to the port city of Philadelphia. The highway was constructed and a northern extension was also added. The entire road when finished passed through Jenkintown, Willow Grove, Hatboro, Buckingham, and Furlong to New Hope. It served as a major artery of transportation of the

continued on page 22







Frandmother's Rolling

by Madlyn Dull

It all started with Grandmother's bakeboard and rolling pin. After using it for thirty-nine years, plus the years of use by Mother and Grandmother, I decided to hang it on the kitchen wall. One hundred years old and still in perfect condition! That was the beginning of an interesting hobby of collecting primitive woodenware. After three years and about 400 items, the collection has grown to include kitchenware items other than those made of wood. There is romance and nostalgia in cooking in the old manner, but how many women would go back to the days before modern inventions?

The appeal of kitchen antiques is in their simplicity and in my constant curiosity about their association with people's lives. One wonders how a woman could lift the old iron pots full of stew, make the soap before washing in an old boiler, weave the cloth before sewing, etc. No wonder they went to bed so early! Old kitchenware bears the marks of usage with cracks, dents, scratches, odors — in fact, it is possible to tell the usage of certain articles by the stains and odors still lingering after years of being stored in old attics or barns.

My collection is fun, but empty wall space in the kitchen is becoming scarce. When my neighbors hear a hammering noise, they are certain that another article is being added to the wall. The first time something fell to the kitchen floor in the middle of the night, we thought it was a prowler. Investigation proved it to be only the fluted tin cakepan. Now I think that a burglar could make a noise in the same room and my husband would say "Go to sleep! Something fell off the wall." But as a result, I notice that he now checks the wires and nails of any new addition.

Rolling pins make an odd array in my collection. The earliest rolling pin was just what the name implied, a pin that rolled. It had no handles, only tapering ends and thus was higher in the middle. A later roller had one handle, the pin could be steadied with one hand while the other pushed it over the dough. Then came many sizes and styles. The top roller is thirty four inches long and came from a Bucks County farm and was used for noodles and pasta. Maple was a common wood used, and the large fat roller is of beautiful "Tiger" maple. The long thin roller was Grandmother's noodle roller (now they call it a "French" roller). The roller fourth from the top is from a seaside town in Maine - has corrugated grooves, and was used for making "hardtack" or "sea bread" for whaling vessels (a coarse flat cake made of flour and water - flattened thin, and rolled once to leave deep indentations). The carved roller on the right came from Italy about eighty years ago. The glass pin on the right is shown in a catalogue of 1898. The bottle-type glass pins with screw tops originally came filled with bath salts, vinegar, cocoa, baking powder, etc.

The pastry blender was used to mix and blend pastry dough. The cutting-in-motion produces a more tender pastry.

The pie crimper was a simple device for cutting pastry, pie strips and fluting, and sealing two pie crusts together. Early nineteenth century cookbooks refer to this gadget as a "jagging" or "Gigling" iron.

The one shown is of tin and fluted wood and is called a pie crimper and edge trimmer.

The pie lifters were used to lift hot pies from the

brick ovens and, later, from the range ovens. Wooden pie peel were two "pie forks" made of two-pronged heavy wire with wooden handles and shaped like a pitchfork; a round, heavy tin shovel-type lifter was used to transfer pies and pots from oven to table. The iron lifter with curved prongs can also lift casseroles as well as pies. They all hung near the stove.

Did you know that our ancestors had frozen pies as far back as the Pilgrim period? At Thanksgiving time, many more pies were made than were eaten and the extras were put away to freeze for the meals to come. In the cold climate the outside larders had sometimes as many as fifty frozen pies stacked one on top the other. It is hard to state when pies first appeared but the early tables would not have been properly supplied without pies. The meat pie came first, used as a main dish, and the making of mince pies followed. The contents of these first minced pies was as interesting as a small boy's pockets. When meat from farm animals was not obtainable, bear meat was a good substitute. Added to this were syrup and meat juice, dried fruit and nuts, highly seasoned with spices. Pies made from fruit, squash and pumpkin came in due time and the pantry boasted of a continual row of pies for a wonderful feast.

From Great-Grandmother's notebook:

- 1. Save all bits of string and twine and teach the children to sort them and tie different sizes together. Use the accumulated twine to knit or crochet dishcloths 12 inches square. Bath slippers can also be made of it.
- 2. Paper bags are good to wrap articles, and useful to polish stoves and lamp chimneys. Also to wipe spilled milk and grease.
- 3. A rolling pin with movable handles makes the touch lighter. There can be no heavy handed methods if you will have a digestible substance.
- 4. An unerring test for good flour: Good flour is white with a yellowish or straw colored tint. Squeeze some of the flour in your hand; if it is good it will retain the shape given it by pressure. Knead a little between your fingers; if it works soft and sticky it is poor. Throw a little against a dry, perpendicular surface; if it falls like powder it is bad.
- 5. Never confide in a young man new pails leak. Never tell your secret to the aged old doors seldom shut closely.
- 6. A good wife should try to have five fulls beautiful, dutiful, youthful, plentiful and an armful.
- 7. My learned doctor has said: "Tight lacing kills off all the foolish girls and leaves the wise to grow into women."
 - 8. Though old and wise, don't advise.

THOSE BEAUTIFUL BOATS OF BUCKS COUNTY

by Sheila L.M. Broderick

"I must go down to the seas again, to
the lonely sea and the sky, and all I ask is
a tall ship and a star to steer her by..."

So wrote John Masefield many years
ago. In reading these much loved words

The villages
nourished by the hand the day. For the delivery, river transports way. Rafts, flatboat

ago. In reading these much loved words and the many others penned by poets about ships and boats, it's not surprising to realize that man has been conducting a mad love affair with the sea for hundreds of years.

Not only in coastal areas or islands has this romance manifested itself. Upon many an inland water-way, man has produced a thing of beauty, a sailing vessel... smooth as silk and balanced to perfection. Such was the case of the lovely Durham Boats and the man who created them, Robert Durham.

The Delaware River knew man long before her shores did. Travel in the times of the red man was made mainly upon the rivers and streams of this land, and the white man followed suit.

The upper reaches of the river were settled first, and by 1698 there were several small communities along the banks of the Delaware. It was here where the Delaware and Durham Creek met in a swirl of gurgling currents that the first Durham boat was launched about 1745.

The villages were prosperous, nourished by the healthy river trade of the day. For the quickest and safest delivery, river transportation was the only way. Rafts, flatboats and canoes plied up and down the waterway, bringing fresh produce, meats, clothes, flour and whiskey. The river gave to all a healthy stimulant for work and pleasure.

The furnaces, certainly the most powerful and important industry on the Pennsylvania side of the river, began in the year 1727. And it was about two miles below the blast furnaces that Robert Durham built one of the first big boats to sail the waters of Bucks County.

The Durham family arrived in Bucks in 1723 and Robert who was engineer and manager of the Iron Works, went on later to establish the boat yards. Just how many boats were launched from the site on the gently sloping beach, shaded by the huge sycamore trees, is hard to guess.

Unfortunately, as so often happens in history, no one thought keeping records for this production of boats worthwhile. It's a safe bet though, to assume that a great many boats left this lovely location on this almost pure silica stretch.

These boats from the Durham yard did a great deal to stimulate the growth of the river communities, aiding industries arriving all along the pleasant water-way. They were the only boats at the time, capable of making trips both up and down the river. So it was then, that these swift vessels would haul the local products to the waiting markets. Then after turning around and heading home the same day, they would cart all sorts of badly needed parts and supplies from the ports along the lower reaches of the river.

Fame of this stout little boat spread quickly. Boat builders wishing to make their own flat-bottomed double ended boat with the same strength and maneuverability, copied the design. Durham boats came into use, with slight variations, on the Susquehanna River and the St. Lawrence. And, according to a newspaper report a few years back, parts of a Durham boat were found in the river at Batsto Furnace, New Jersey.

When traveling downstream she went with the current, worked and guided by a set of eighteen-foot oars. Upstream was another kettle of fish. The boat was propelled by two men poling on either



side, with fourteen to eighteen foot poles heavily shod in iron.

The walkway used by the two poling crewmen was one-foot in width. After setting their poles in firmly, they walked the boat forward. Then, while they were returning to the bow of the boat, the third member of the crew (who steered the vessel) would hold it fast with another setting pole until the other two resumed their walk forward again.

The sizes of these boats varied slightly from around forty-four to sixty-six feet long, with her midship running about forty-four inches deep. They were double ended like a canoe, flat-bottomed, with a seven foot beam. A great many of the Durham boats came with a tall mast and boom, carrying a large triangular sail of canvas. With a good strong wind whipping across the river, they would travel upstream like great birds flying across the water.

Popularity continued, until it was not at all unusual to see as many as one hundred and fifty docked at one place up and down the Delaware.

The greatest testimony to this strong, hardy, dependable boat is the fact that Washington called an order for . . . "as

many of those Durham boats as you can get your hands on!" Order fulfilled, they carried a full army across the Delaware that Christmas.

Still a Durham boat without a highly skilled navigator didn't amount to a whole lot . . . unless you were one of those raised to the river and her moods. Each trip taken involved lives and goods being delivered safely at the hands of a helmsman who had a full measure of strength and mighty quick reflexes. Nothing but long years of experience would do, and once gained, these were jealously passed on from one generation to the next.

Always a necessary part of each trip was the jug of whiskey stored in the aft cabin. Tradition dictated at what spot in the journey the jug should be passed around. There is a point on the river called Dram rock, and it was here that both upward and downward crews would pause for a swig. There are many others, too; seems that the need for this break was a dire necessity to these stout hearted water men.

The men of these boats had no charts to guide them; it was all a matter of remembering. For instance, there were places along the run that bore names like Forty-Barrel Rock, Sixty-Barrel Rock and Hundred-Barrel Rock. These indicated the number of barrels of whiskey that could be safely transported over that particular area.

In the year 1832 there was a grand opening of the Delaware Division of the Pennsylvania Canal and it was the sad beginning of the end for the lovely Durham boats. From leadership on the water-ways they dropped to heavy load jobs. Many just lay around along the banks, only to be lost in the spring floods or rot away.

A few survived for some time by doing ferry work in the upper reaches of the river, then they, too, disappeared.

Someone once said of these vessels...
"The Durham Boat was a beauty, with lines that were perfection. She moved through the water with such ease, a clear run aft, that she left the water almost as calm as she found it. She was perfect as far as light running was concerned and could outsail any boat I ever saw."

Yes, the Delaware River and her men can most certainly be said to have had a deep love affair with the beautiful Durham Boat.

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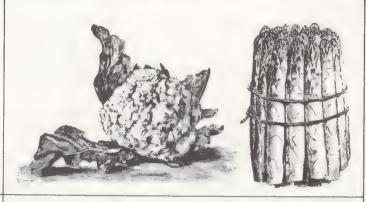
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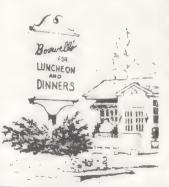
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A DILLAR A DOLLAR

by Sheila W. Martin

Schoolhouse photographs courtesy of Brown Bros. Auctioneers of Buckingham, Pa.

If no records of life in the United States during the past 150 years existed, how would we know what went on? Could we tell anything about the economics, the history, the social and religious attitudes of our country during this time period?

Strangely enough it might be the simple schoolbook that would supply us with enough clues to reconstruct the information we want. Some examples of the interesting material found in the books will illustrate the story.

Colburn's Intellectural Arithmetic asked such sticklers as these back in 1828: "A man bought a hundred weight of sugar for nine dollars, and a barrel of flour for seven dollars, how much did he give for the whole?" (The price of some staples is established.)

"If a stage runs seven miles in an hour, how far will it run in nine hours?" (A mode of transportation is indicated.)

"If a man earns 4 dollars in a week, how many dollars will he earn in 3 weeks and 1 fourth of a week?" (An idea of wages is given.)

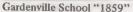
The hapless student of algebra in the 1870's coped with these problems: "A man paid 24 dollars for a hat, vest, and coat. The vest cost twice as much as the hat, and the coat cost three times as much as the hat, what was the price of each?" (We may not know the correct answer but we do know that the prices of men's clothing were a lot cheaper then.)

"A man was hired for a year, for \$100 and a suit of clothes; but at the end of 8 months he left, and received his clothes and \$60 in money, as full compensation for the time he had worked; what was the value of the suit of clothes?" (Forget the suit, where can you get someone to work for those wages?)

Goodrich's History of the United States used in 1822 gives not only the sequence of events in our country's history, but a very clear picture of the way that children of that day were taught to see those events in a moral light. With the emphasis on separation of church and state in present day classrooms, questions such as these would not be asked: "How does History incite to virtue and warn against vice? In what way does it display the dealings of God with mankind?"

Willard's History of the United States continued to point out moral lessons to the school child of 1844. The dry facts of history took on a personal touch with the rather fulsome descriptions of events. We learn more of President Harrison's inauguration than we could from a history text of today: "From the capitol he went to the presidential mansion. Thousands flocked around him with congratulations and proffers of service, whose sincerity he was not prone to doubt, for he was himself sincere. The







The Southwestern School "1869"

sunshine of public favor thus fell too brightly upon a head white with the frosts of age. His health failed, and he expired just a month from the day of his inauguration."

History books of the 1870's still tended to become emotionally involved in events as evidenced by this account of Benedict Arnold: "During this year, the sorrow of the nation was increased by the treachery of General Arnold. The Americans could bear with becoming fortitude the defeat of their armies, the death of their officers, and the loss of their soldiers; these things were in the nature of events — they were the chances of war. But never for a moment did they imagine that there was one among their small number capable of betraying his country. Can it be possible, they asked themselves again and again, can it be possible that he who fought and bled for his country, the hero of Saratoga's bloody field, that General Arnold is a traitor? Alas! the fact was only too true."

A fruitful source of the social attitudes of the 1830's is the *Union Spelling Book*. Delightful pictures show the way children dressed; reading lessons give a heavy emphasis on scriptural learning, and the student is left with no doubts as to the rules of behavior: "A few boys went out to look for a bird's nest. But was not each boy in school told that it was wrong to rob a bird's nest? Yes; yet they went to rob a bird's nest. The old bird was on the nest. Was Henry



Rocky Ridge School "1863"

Pond there? No. Henry Pond is one of the best boys in all the school. He is not seen with bad boys. Henry and Charles Green are both good boys. They go from home straight to school; and from school they go straight home. Of course they do not play by the way." (Bet they're not too popular with the other boys!)

Further amplification of the rules of behavior are given in *Comly's Spelling Book* of 1849: "A good boy loves his parents, brothers, and sisters. He always minds what his parents say to him, and tries to please them. If they desire him not to do a thing, he does not do it; if they tell him to do anything, he does it cheerfully. When they deny him what he wants, he does not grumble or pout out his lips, or look angry; or cry; but he thinks that his parents know what is proper for him, better than he does, because they are older and wiser. He is kind to his brothers and sisters, and to all his little playmates. He never teases them nor quarrels with them, nor calls ill names." (Oh, for those good old days!)

In 1881 Lippincott's Third Reader instructed the young students in the evils of drink as this dramatic excerpt shows: "When I next saw Mr. Raymond, I learned from him more about Mrs. Hoffman. Her husband had once been the foreman in the Glass-Works, and had a nice home of his own in the village; but strong drink ruined him. Although he was continued on page 24



Valley Park School "1878"



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by
A. Russell Thomas

SEPTEMBER, THE YEAR 1925

LABOR DAY, 1925: Looking back 48 years I recall that Labor Day was an eventful one in Bucks County. On the sports front it was indeed a day to be remembered for Central Bucks baseball fans because the Doylestown team that day earned the right to play in "The Little World Series" of the lively Montgomery County League. On that day Doylestown defeated the championship Ambler club, 3 to 1, on Worthington Field (Doylestown) in a morning game and then traveled to Souderton in the afternoon where they trounced Souderton's Trumbore-Zendt clan, 11 to 8. There was rejoicing and merry-making all around Central Bucks County for it was Doylestown's first opportunity to play in the "Little World Series" of the Montco League.

THE OUTSTANDING hero of this Labor Day opener was the old reliable Indian Chief Nick Bradley, who turned in TWO victories in one day. In the morning game at Doylestown, Chief Bradley defeated Ambler allowing but six hits in addition to starting a batting rally that resulted in victory. When the Chief felt himself weakening a bit in the ninth inning he let Manager Nick Power know that it was his desire to let Pitcher Harry Blair finish the game becuase he wanted a victory. Again in the afternoon at Souderton, after Pitcher Blair had "been found" by the Souderton sluggers, Chief Bradley came to the rescue and pitched the last six innings to beat Souderton, 11-8 in addition to cracking out a homer in the first inning.

IN THE LINEUPS for that Labor Day double-header attraction were the following

Doylestown players: Power, rf; Blair, cf, p; Bradley, p, cf; Barfoot, c; Zinn, 3b; Roberts, If; Bigley, 2b; Gulick, 1b; Stultz, ss. The Ambler lineup: Pierson, cf; Martin, If; Glebert, p; Kelly, 1b; Deens, rf; Eddowes, 3b; Bishop, 2b; Finney, ss; Richie, c.

IN THE FIRST game of that Little World Series, Doylestown shut out the Ambler club, 5-0, with Indian Chief Bradley pitching in a game that featured the fielding of Cal Roberts and Mickey Kling. What a ball club Doylestown had that year!

LABOR DAY harness races attracted many to the Hatfield Driving Club grounds with Philadelphia horses winning four out of five races . . . J. Bentley Candy, 20-year-old golfer won the Bucks County Country Club championship at Langhorne by defeating Henry L. Ridge, 5 and 4, in a 36-hole match, with Dr. F.L. Ridge, a brother of the beaten finalist in the club championship, winning the second flight by defeating Wilmer Girton, 4 and 3 . . . Coach William E. (Bill) Wolfe arrived in Doylestown to take over his duties as coach of Dovlestown High football teams... In a talk before the Doylestown Kiwanis Club, Coach Wolfe urged all Central Bucks fans to get behind DHS football and its very first squad of 42 players in order to develop the game as a major sport at Dovlestown High in the school's first "football vear."

RANK AMATEURS: An attempt to blow up the large William F. Fretz Clothing Factory in Pipersville at 3 in the morning of Sept. 12, 1925, turned out to be a failure although the loud explosion awakened the entire population of that village. The damage was less than \$25 due to inexperienced bombers placing the explosion material in a crudely constructed box. No clues were ever found by police but a Clothing Workers Union group was investigated.

LIQUOR RAIDS: State Police of the Doylestown detail and Constable Thomas Crawford had a busy Labor Day as they raided three places in search of rum, resulting in the arrest of three defendants who were held for the September term of Bucks County criminal court, for selling and possessing intoxicating liquor for beverage purposes. On the premises of Anthony Marek, proprietor of the Hulmeville Hotel, the officers confiscated a coffee pot containing two quarts of liquor and in another part of the hotel they seized 60 gallons of wine. The store of Edward Bock, near Croydon, was raided and a pint of whiskey confiscated. In the home of Charles Meinzer nearby, a small quantity of liquor was found in the ice box.

continued on page 18



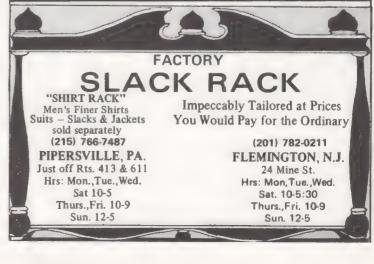
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Dear Editor:

You asked for an article about Lynn Sims and about the Bucks County Ballads she wrote and recorded. You also wanted to know how a staid, conservative, nonprofit organization like the Bucks County Conservancy found itself—to its own astonishment—in the "pop music" business. Some real life stories are stranger than fiction. But I don't want to repeat what has been in so many of the newspapers.

An article is supposed to be objective. That's what my teachers taught me years ago. Just report the facts; be sure you get the facts straight; never mind any personal opinions or any emotional reactions. But I cannot be objective about Lynn Sims and her songs. Hence I cannot do that article. I hope this letter will do as a substitute—or maybe an explanation.

As indicated in an article I wrote for your last issue Bucks County is an unique place. People have a terribly strong attachment both to the place and to its name. Many of the people who feel that way were not born here. I am one of them who was not.

I've lived and worked in at least a dozen places. I only lived — and farmed — in Bucks County about a dozen years. With such a peripatetic life I've had no real home place. I could easily get lost in my native city or any of half a dozen where I've lived. I can even get lost in Bucks County!

I found myself at last a frightened and unhappy stranger in New York City. Ready at last to admit defeat and run away from its well-known horrors, where was I to run? There were so many places to which I might flee. Which of these places — if any — was really the best? By some instinct I can't explain, my mental magnetic pilot zeroed in on Bucks County and I came back here. After I came back I began to have a few doubts. Why had I not chosen one of several islands in the Mediterranean or the Caribbean? Why not any one of a number of other places I know and love. I really couldn't tell you why.

Then along came Lynn Sims and her songs. Suddenly all my questions were answered and my doubts removed. Every word and every note of those songs told me this: I had really come home!

Such an emotional reaction may seem exaggerated to some. But I had been a devotee of the pure folk ballad for nearly 40 years. I believe I may have organized the first recital of Appalachian folk ballads in New York City. Many in the audience were recent emigres from Paris: Max Ernst, the great surrealist painter, Henry Miller, the writer. W. H. Auden must have been there and we met in the studio of John Ferren, a great American painter. To these leaders of the international world of art, hearing those old folk ballads was a new and a thrilling experience. It was for me also, though I'd already heard them back in them that hills listening with Zilphia Horton who had collected them and who was presenting them for us that night.

But who else remembers? Who survives, who treasures the pure folk ballad as an irreplacable form of folk art? I do worry about this. Because the Bucks County Conservancy is counting on the sale of these records to help finance its work of protecting and preserving the natural beauty and the historic background of Bucks County.

There must be many people alive today who know the folk ballad only as it has been corrupted by the rock-and-rollers with their electronic noise-making machines and their equally synthetic voices and dialects. There must be many more who go for "Country and Western" who tune in on some combo with a name like "The Bluegrass Boys" with their tricorne hats and funny imitation-farmer clothes and hear a jazzed-up, vaudeville-style version of the kinds of songs their grandaddies used to sing. And they tell me there's a pile of moola in that kind of stuff!

All of that bothers me. Because Lynn Sims' songs are in the purest tradition of the American folk ballad. They are as authentic as the songs which were sung for Zilphia and me by those miners and miners' wives and children in the Tennessee mountains. They are the real thing,

I can easily imagine, for instance, that Lynn's "These Gentle Valleys" might become something like an official anthem for Bucks County! It is surely more beautiful than "America, the Beautiful!" Which takes us right back where we started: does any other county in the world have an official or unofficial anthem?

So today the question for the Conservancy is: who cares? Either for this kind of music or for the future health and beauty of this county! And I guess the only way we will get the answer will be to wait and see how many of your readers will mail five dollars to the Bucks County Conservancy, 21 North Main Street, Doylestown, Pa. 18901, and ask for the recording Bucks County Ballads by Lynn Sims. Here's hoping! Meantime thank you for printing this letter and I'm sorry about that article assignment I failed to complete.

Sincerely yours,

Alfred H. Sinks

BUCKS COUNTY BALLADS

"These Gentle Valleys"



'Jericho Valley' by Daniel Garber The painting is the property of his son, John Garber

COLLECTOR'S ITEMS



Back copies of *Panorama* are available for \$.50 each, post paid. The number is limited. A wealth of interesting historical articles, old pictures of Bucks County, and other articles are contained in each issue.

Feature articles in 1969 include:

Jan. — Mennonites in Bucks County
— History of Mail Service in Doylestown

Feb. — The Langhorne Ghost — Dr. Arthur E. Bye

Mar. — John Swift of Southampton — Old Fashioned Garden

Apr. – Tories in Bucks County – Pyramids in Bucks

May - Antique Collecting - Wafer Irons

June - Special New Hope Issue

July — General Jacob Brown — Silk Industry in Bucks

Aug. — Clymer Homestead in Chalfont — Jericho Valley Homes

Sept. — Canal Trip on the Molly Pally Chunker — The Marble Cutting Craft

Oct. - The Fountain House of Doylestown - Part I
- Old Bensalem Church

Nov. — Fox Hunting in Bucks — The Fountain House of Doylestown — Part II

Dec. — Washington's Crossing
— George Wiley — Welder and Artist

Bucks County Panorama 50 E. Court Street Doylestown, Pa. 18901 RUSS continued from page 15

NOT ON THE PROGRAM: During a meeting of the Doylestown Nature Club at the home of Mrs. H.A. McComas in Rushland, the two-year-old son of Henry McComas, attempted to put his arms around the neck of an Irish Terrier and the dog dug its teeth into the face of the little fellow close to one of his eyes and inflicted a serious wound.

THE LARGEST funeral ever held in Doylestown brought hundreds of prominent men and women from many walks of life to the home of Dr. Frank B. Swartzlander who died suddenly in London, England while on a visit there. The service for the well known family doctor was conducted by the Rev. J.L. Hady, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Doylestown.

THIS RAMBLER and my good friend Harry S. Hobensack were the official delegates to the Pennsylvania State Convention of the American Legion in Erie in September, 1925. We both recall in our report to the A.R. Atkinson Jr. Post No. 210, of Doylestown, that the key speaker at the convention that year described the American Legion as "the outstanding service club of the world, with a paid-up membership then of 600,000 and steadily growing with chances of a membership of 2,000,000 in two years." That was 48 years ago.

CHEAPER HAIR CUTS: Doylestown barbers and those in other Bucks County boroughs announced an increase in the price of their service in 1925. Gentlemen's hair cuts increased from 35 cents to 40 cents. The price of a shave increased from 15 to 20 cents. My last haircut cost me \$3.00, not counting a tip, but it was done by a "hairstylist" not a barber, if you know the difference.

BOOTLEGGING: Sentencing a well known Central Bucks County man who pleaded builty before Judge William C. Ryan at the September term, 1925, to a number of liquor law violations, the distinguished jurist said: "It is folly to be lenient with bootlegging defendants. I sentence you to pay a fine of \$300 and costs and serve six months in the Bucks County Prison. It is not worth while to impose a heavy fine on the majority of bootleggers for it would be paid by them and serve no punishment whatsoever." The defendants had pleaded guilty to the offenses alleged to have been committed on his farm lot near the Doylestown Fair Grounds.

"and gladly teach"

by Charlotte C. Andersen



Vacation time — lazy days, no responsibilities for a teacher for three long months. What a soft job!

This is the stereotyped and mistaken idea still held by many people who don't know today's teachers. In Bucks County, as in most of the United States, teachers typically spend the summer in school-related activities which involve work: taking post-graduate courses, studying for advanced degrees, travelling in areas related to their various curricula (with copious notetaking, picture snapping, and even, in many cases,

college credit). Or in professional jobs directly related to teaching, such as counselling in summer camps, directing summer schools, and the like.

As an example, consider Michael Hock, teacher of the educable retarded at MacDonald School, where he and two other team teachers handle eight levels (Mike has the intermediates). He has been at this job, for which his calm, relaxed manner makes him seem admirably suited, for two years. One would think it so tiring and emotionally exhausting that he would seek anything but teaching during the summer.

Yet he spent his summer basically working at the same thing — teaching language arts to the children of migrant workers in North Central Pennsylvania under the Federally-funded Intermediate Unit 16 of Title I. Each morning he got up early, drove a van to their camp, picked up the children, drove to a nearby park, and there, in the great outdoors, gave them a day of "school." His main emphasis was on other occupations the children might grow up to follow if they knew about them.

Evenings he worked as a canoe guide on the Delaware River and on the Raritan in New Jersey. When his Title I job ended, he spent his "vacation" taking a Boy Scout troop to Camp Lavigne as their Scoutmaster!

Another busman's holiday was that of Pearl Morrell, librarian at the George School in Newtown. Last summer she went with the school Work Camp to Kinyamasika, an elementary teachers' training college in Uganda; besides being one of the adult counselors and chaperones for the young people, she worked on the college's book collection. She did similar work this summer.

To quote Pearl: "I was in the world of an English nun in an outpost of British colonialism. It was a delightful life—serene, joyful, simple, easy, productive, satisfying... I spent my energies organizing a very worn and out-dated (comparatively speaking) collection of books into a more usable grouping. The books were either contributions from the British Book Council (excellent) or the U.S. Information Service (multiple copies of paperbacks on the U.S.) and worn gifts stamped "from your friends in America." There was no point in even thinking of

cataloging; not enough time, no supplies, and no comprehension on the girls' part of what a catalog was. I classified with colored tapes on the spines! I also sorted many old pamphlets, pulled duplicates, (which hopefully went to a more remote boys' school), and prepared a book order for a British Book Council grant."

Pearl tells with starry eyes of visits to other schools, Masses with syncopated singing to drums and bamboo shakers, and the celebrations when people arrived or departed to freshly composed songs and tribal dances. She makes no complaints about heat, insects, snakes, primitive material conditions, army checkpoints, or dangerous and slippery travel.

These are only two of the many devoted Bucks County teachers who spent their summers trying to help others or to learn more about teaching, and who truly exemplify the quotation from Chaucer which inspired the title of this column: "and gladly would he learn and gladly teach."



Assiduous as the librarians at the Bucks County Historical Society Library have been in collecting all manner of printed and written records of Bucks County since Warren S. Ely took the helm in 1901, there are still some gaps in their collection. Filling in the "holes" in the library is a matter which we think is well worth pursuing, and our readers can assist us by delving into their attics, barns and libraries to help fill out their collection.

First of all, their set of that fine old magazine, the *Bucks County Traveler*, begins with volume 2, number 5 (the issue of November, 1950). If anyone has any of the earlier issues which they would like to donate to the Society, the gift will be greatly appreciated.

Likewise, they have the first twelve volumes of the Old York Road Historical Society Bulletin, running from 1937 to 1948, but then have a gap extending from 1949 to 1961. The gift of any of these publications of our neighbors down the road will also be very much appreciated.

The Quakertown Historical Society has just celebrated its ninth anniversary. It has been fortunate through the years in receiving donations of historical documents and artifacts from local families.

The major fund raising project of the Society, the Arts Festival, will be held Sept. 21 and 22, at the rear of the Liberty Bell Bakery and Delicatessen on West Broad Street in Quakertown. Plan to attend; it will be most enjoyable.

The Chalfont Floral Club will hold its 39th annual flower show and art exhibit on Sept. 20 and 21 at the St. James Lutheran Church Parish House, Park Ave., Chalfont.

Show Chairman, Mrs. Leslie Crosby, invites the public to participate by entering a floral specimen, house plant or arrangement.

The theme of the artistic division is "This Is The Life!" The types of arrangements include the novice class entry, "Life's First Step," an arrangement which is subject to one's own interpretation and is open only to those who have never before entered an arrangement in a flower show; "A Gardener's Life" features fruits and/or vegetables plus other plant material if desired; "The Spice Of Life" places the emphasis on fun and humor; "Social Life" is depicted by an arrangement for a coffee table.

This year, in honor of the 250th anniversary of the founding of New Britain Township, a special class has been created.

"Local Life" is the theme of this class which is open to men only.

Children 14 years old and under are invited to enter the junior division. Specimens grown by the younger set include cosmos, marigolds, zinnias and sunflowers. The arrangement class open to children consists of a dish garden — "Life In A Little Garden" and "The Adventurous Life," an arrangement using discarded items and plant material.

Schedules containing rules and specifications are available by calling Mrs. Francis Brown at 345-1812 or Mrs. Warren Nace at 345-1527.

Eleven truckloads of historic records of the Bucks County Prothonotary's Office recently were transferred from the Courthouse Annex to the Library of the Bucks County Historical Society, Pine Street, Doylestown, under the provisions of Pennsylvania's County Records Act. The documents, dating from as early as 1686 up to 1947, are important sources for the history of Bucks County, as they record the transactions and decisions of the county Court of Common Pleas through the Colonial Period and the Revolution on into the Twentieth Century.

Terry A. McNealy, Librarian of The Bucks County Historical Society, offered the facilities of the Society's library to house these valuable records. They had been stored in the former Doylestown High School building which was severely damaged by fire last February, and has since been torn down. Fortunately the fire did not reach the area where these records were stored.

McNealy says, "The Common Pleas Court records will be housed in the Society's Archives Department, where they join records of the Bucks County Court of Quarter Sessions, and the Bucks County tax records which were transferred to the Society in recent years."

Among the documents are records of lawsuits for the recovery of debts, judgment notes, partitions of land, mechanics' liens and many others. They date through the county's entire history as a governmental



Members of the New Britain Township 250th Anniversary Committee — left to right: Franklin J. Cianciulli, chairman; Nancy Cianciulli, Jan Martin, Lynn Miller, and James Collie.

entity beginning with the period when the county seat was at "Crewcorne," a village that stood where Morrisville now is, from 1683 to 1705. The documents also cover the period when the county seat moved to Bristol in 1705, then to Newtown in 1726 and to Doylestown in 1813.

Kathi and Kerri Holbert, petite blonde, blue-eyed four-year-olds, have been selected as the poster children for the 1973 appeal of the Eastern Pennsylvania, Delaware and Southern New Jersey Chapter of the National Cystic Fibrosis Research Foundation.

They are two of the triplet daughters of Robert and Beverly Holbert of 2265 Bristol Road, Warrington. Holbert is a foreman for Holbert Porsche and Audi in Warrington.

The local Cystic Fibrosis Chapter is seeking \$200,000 in the month-long September campaign.

Volunteers are needed to march in the door-to-door appeal, which begins Sunday, Sept. 9. Workers may enroll by contacting Chapter headquarters, room 606, Western Savings Bank Building, Broad and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia.



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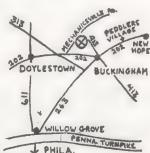
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HIGHWAYS continued from page 5

middle colonies. Later York Road became a very important route to New York.

Easton Road or U.S. 611 was once a fur trapping trail. In 1722 the road was extended from Philadelphia to Doylestown and Easton.

The residents of North and Southampton petitioned for a road in 1723 that would run through the center of the county eastward to Bristol and King's Highway (now U.S. 13). The road was to be built so that it could easily be reached by the northern and southern inhabitants of the county. The basic reason for the proposal was the need for grain to be easily transported to Robert Haiton's mill now referred to as Mill Race. This road is now called Bristol Road and did not reach Churchville until 1737, and Hartsville as late as 1766.

Street Road was formerly an extension of Dunk's Ferry Road named thusly because of Dunk's Ferry landing located at the road's eastern end on the Delaware River. It was extended to the Bristol Turnpike in 1696. In April of 1737 the road reached Abington Mill or what is now the present section in Lower Southampton, and in 1766 to Richboro.

Roads finally were becoming predominent in the Southampton area. County Line Road was laid from Montgomeryvilleto Bustleton Pike in 1753, a total distance of 19 miles.

Second Street Pike was an extension of Second Street in Philadelphia. It was primarily used as a short cut to the New Hope ferry landing on the Delaware.

The present Maple Avenue was laid in 1814. It connected Davisville and Southampton, passing the Baptist Meeting House on Second Street Pike.

Most of these roads, even the "King's Highways", in bad weather conditions and the spring thaws were almost impassable and still in need of much improvement. John Fitch had thoughts of putting his steam engine in a horseless carriage but abandoned his dream, realizing that with the poor road conditions it would be knocked to pieces in a few short miles.

The next era of roads in Bucks County was that of the turnpike road. These were usually short macadamized stretches of highway owned by a private family or a corporation. A fee was collected for the use of the road. Many of the toll houses are still standing today. One is located at the crossroads below Churchville on Bustleton Pike, one of the first turnpike roads in Bucks County. Eventually the state and county bought all the major roads and instituted a highway tax for their upkeep and development.

As noted by a local historian "the story of our roads is the long-winding story of the greatness of America."

What's New That's Old

Netsukes

By Dorothy A. McFerran

"What a lovely collection of little ivories" I said to my hostess as I eyed a shelf full of intriguing, miniature carvings.

"They're 'netsukes' " she said.

"Whatskis? Never heard the word. How do you spell it?" She explained that the spelling is n-e-t-s-u-k-e, if pronounced phonetically it would be net-sue-key. In Japanese, however, suke comes out *ski*, hence "netski".

She obligingly handed down her best pieces for my scrutiny. There were animals, theatrical masks, and figures. Her favorite was of two male figures. One was a bearded old gentleman standing in flowing robes; behind him knelt a small fellow with a marvelously evil grin. The ivory was tinted yellow with age and was soothingly smooth to the touch. When she instructed me to turn up the bottom of the piece, I was delighted to find the carving there just as meticulously detailed as on the rest of the piece. Three footprints showed clearly, and one doubled under leg in a boat, belonging to the kneeling figure were plainly carried out. There was also a signature in Japanese characters.

A figure of a four footed animal like a dog showed every detail of his rounded pads and toenails on the bottom. The back view of the netsukes showed two converging holes. All genuine netsukes have such holes and they are a clue to age (to be explained).

Until the Japanese went Western in dress, gentlemen wore kimonos which had no pockets. They secured the kimonos about their middles by means of a broad silk sash (obi). In lieu of pockets, a cord was worn under the obi. On this cord, the netsukes were strung by means of the two holes. The cord was concealed under the sash, but the netsukes hung out over the top to keep the cord from slipping. Since other objects were also strung on the cord, the original function of the netsukes was to separate the other objects (inro) from each other.

The inro were things like paint brushes for writers, medicines for the doctor or patient, and pleasurable objects like pipes and tobacco, all necessities for the day. Eventually the function disappeared altogether, and the netsukes became purely decorative. They were fingered much as Greek men finger the Greek Worry Beads today.

Not all netsukes are ivory. Many were made of wood, some of metals, and some were fashioned from natural products like a bird's egg or a giant insect cocoon, even a large variety of bean.

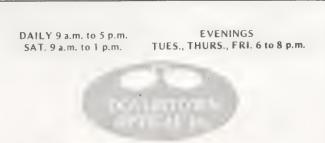
Most netsukes are signed, but since

there are so many fakes, forgeries, and reproductions (coming into the country now), I would not place too much stock in a signature. Even very ancient ones can be the work of a student studying the art of carving netsukes from a master. The student was encouraged to make exact copies including the master's signature.

I have recently come across a good many netsukes, both wood and ivory, and prices have run from \$12.00 (recent, poor reproductions) to more than \$100.

So, the inevitable question. How to detect age? Well, for one, the feel. There is a smooth, worn but not damaged feel about most old objects. The yellowed tint of the ivory. If wood, the color is probably deep with patina. Good netsukes had no sharp points to catch on silk.

Another good clue is the two holes mentioned. Early netsukes had comparatively large, unequal holes, one above the other. Late netsukes have smaller, equal holes. Netsukes were made well into this century, probably through the twenties. By today's standards, these would be considered on the antique side. As opposed to current reproductions, they would be an investment which can only appreciate in value like so many of today's collectibles.



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A DILLAR A DOLLAR continued from page 13

a good husband and a kind father before he got into the way of drinking, yet he had early formed the habit of taking his bitters every morning, until, in time, he thought he needed a glass of ale with his luncheon. And so the habit grew upon him. His drinking unfitted him for business, and he lost his position in the Glass-Works. Then his home had to be sold to pay his debts — a part of them at the dram-shop. At length he died a drunkard's death." (So watch that first drink!)

As we continue our looking into the schoolbooks that lead us into the twentieth century, we find many instances of math books telling us about history, science, and economics. English books do the same.

Lippincott's *Practical Arithmetic* of 1899 offers the following informative questions: "In 1880 there were 16,120 Indians and 75,025 Chinese in California. How many were there of both, and how many more Chinese than Indians?"

"How many pounds of butter, at \$.23 a pound, must be given for 5 pounds of raisins at \$.11 a pound, 2 pounds of tea, at \$.63 a pound, and a barrel of sugar at \$9?" (Wonder if this supermarket gives trading stamps, too.)

In 1921, the *Ideal Speller* clearly indicates where a woman's place is: "The husband works on the farm. The wife works in the house." (She still does, after she gets home from her job.)

An algebra book in use today lets us know just how far we have come from "How far will the stage run in 9 hours?" when it asks, "On a 6400-kilometer rocket test range, one rocket takes 8 minutes longer than a second which travels 40 kilometers a minute faster. Find the speed of the second rocket."

Textbooks have changed greatly in the past century and a half; the earnest and naive stories are gone in deference to today's sophisticated and television-oriented child; the math problems are the same, only the names of the objects have been changed to confuse the math student. We can trace much history and more social change in these textbooks; we can admire modern scientific material while sometimes yearning for the taken-for-granted virtues of an earlier age that not only knew God was not dead but was convinced that He cared for His children. We have more analytical accounts of history now but miss the charm and intimacy of the older history lessons.

Our country, unknowingly, has recorded its history, ethics, prejudices, and its constant desire to educate its youth in the best way possible in the very textbooks of these children through the years.

LET THEIR VOICES RISE IN SONG by Lois H. Moore

"The hills are alive with the sound of music" again as voices fill the air with song. The Bucks County Choral Society, a newly formed choral group of mixed voices, was organized by David Johns on January 23, 1973.

Mr. Johns, the choral society director received most of his education at the Cleveland Institute of Music. His love of music led him to organize the Bucks County Choral Society. The first concert was presented by 30 women and ten men on June 3rd and was enthusiastically received.

Some of the music sung by the group was also performed by the Bucks County Choir, a similar group which disbanded about ten years ago. The revival of a choral group has led several members from the Bucks County Choir to join the Bucks County Choral Society, among them is Earl Nichols, the president.

The group performs a wide variety of music from the choral repertoire including madrigals, sacred songs, spirituals, masses and songs from Broadway shows. To be sung in the group's performance on December 2nd are selections from Handel's "Messiah". The concert will be performed at Lenape Junior High School, Doylestown, Pennsylvania at 3:30 P.M.

The Bucks County Choral Society is composed of people of all ages who love to sing. They work hard to have a professional sounding group. Membership is open to anyone who enjoys singing. Meetings are held every Tuesday evening throughout the year at Central Bucks West High School at 8:00 P.M. Three concerts are planned for each year.

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RUSS continued from page 18

BUCKS COUNTY INVENTORS

BUCKS COUNTY has contributed much to the advancement of mechanical science, chemistry and agricultural mechanics. Colonel Charles Ellet, born at Penn's Manor in Falls Township in 1810, built the first wire suspension bridge ever made in the western hemisphere in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia. He also invented the "Steam ram" which was a forerunner of the Merrimca and Monitor. Admiral Dahlgren lived on a farm near Hartsville and his inventions were responsible for many improvements in naval warfare. The Landreths of Bristol were American pioneers in the field of horticulture and forestry and free stone peaches were first distributed from their nurseries. Of course, Dr. Henry C. Mercer, born in Doylestown, was a world-famous archeologist and scientist who invented several new methods of making tile. Samuel Stokton White, D.D.S. born in Hulmeville, became the founder and head of the S.S. White Dental Manufacturing Company in Philadelphia. Dr. Howard A. Trego, of Newtown, another dentist, was the first to administer nitrous oxide or "laughing gas" which he manufactured in the basement of his home. Victor Kulp, of Edison, invented an automatic train stop to prevent head on and rear end collisions on railroads where the signal system failed. And two young German immigrants came to Doylestown in 1869 and opened a watch and clock factory...they were Louis H. Spellier and Abraham Yeakel and one of their inventions resulted in the birth of Electric Time-Telegraphy.

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SEVEN HOUSES — A Memoir of Time and Places, by Josephine W. Johnson. Simon & Schuster. New York. 1973. 160 pp. \$5.95.

Sometimes, one little thing, sight or smell, will bring a sudden flashback of an earlier time and place and I will stop and remember for a few moments, while present day problems and pressures fade into the background. It's something we all do — a trick of the mind — something stored, temporarily forgotten, in the memory bank of the mind, comes out in one's thoughts and is remembered again. Memories are wonderful things — they bring everything into your own personal perspective, eliminating unnecessary details. I think this is why sometimes the memory is better than the actual happening.

Reading Josephine Johnson's book brought back memories of my own childhood, spent in several old houses — each a 'character' in its own way. I have always felt that a house has a certain amount of "humanness" to it — perhaps leftover emotions of former inhabitants. We picked our present home out of pure emotion — there was no logical reasoning in our choice. It's a warm happy haven against the fast paced outside world. It is a house that seems to hug you as you walk in the door — even when it was empty. It's an old house, with a list of former owners a mile long and we know they were all happy here.

All these things are the reasons that Seven Houses is one of the most enjoyable books I have ever read. It is a book to be picked up at any time for a few moments of reading or a few hours.

While reading the book, happy and sad little flash-backs of my own memories — pictures in my mind returned to me to melt with the writing in the book. Miss Johnson takes the reader from her mother's family home to "The Old House," the first home of her own. Her memories of each place are beautifully written — memories of "misty morning heat coming over the pond" — memories of "hundreds of hiding places" or memories of "big squashy biscuits with homemade butter".

Miss Johnson writes: "Memories of people move about too much. The angles change. But the dew on the grass, in the fresh bright morning hours — that stays, that memory does not change."

I would very much like to meet this lady who can write such a book — who can get into my inner-self so easily with her writing and who can give me such pleasure in such a small book. She can be sure I will read every other thing she has written and will write in the future.

C.C.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND RELIGION, by Thomas O'Brian Hanley. Consortium Press. Washington, D.C., 1971. 260 pp. \$13.95.

After reading the first few pages, I thought that the title was misleading since the author addresses his subject only as it applied to the Colony and State of Maryland. As I read on I realized that the title is actually very accurate. Virtually every form of Christianity existing in the colonies was practiced in Maryland, and the experience in this one small state covers almost the total experience of America's churches in the great period of political transition.

Based on impressive statistics and a detailed study of the writings of Maryland's church leaders, the author shows that the American Revolution converted Maryland from what he calls a confessional state wherein one church, the Church of England, enjoyed a preferential status into a Christian state where all denominations prospered in a new political environment that encouraged all religions but granted special favors to none. The principal gainers, of course, were the Roman Catholics and Protestant dissenters that had suffered the greatest hardship under the confessional state. Most significant, however, is the fact that even the Anglicans, who had been the officially established church, prospered as never before in their new national church under their own elected bishops.

Religion cannot be separated from the story of the American Revolution. Fr. Hanley has done his work and has done it well. More literature of this type is sorely needed to fully develop the relationship of America's rich religious life to both causes and consequences in the history of American Independence.

H.W.B.



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BOOKS continued from page 27

PLANTCRAFT – a Growing Compendium of Sound Indoor Gardening with Sound Text, by Janet Cox. Illustrations by Win Ng. Music by K. Ziegenfuss, photography by S. Taylor. Yerba Buena Press, San Francisco, Calif. 1973. \$3.95.

The third in a series of craft books by the creative people at Yerba Buena Press in San Francisco. Plantcraft is a 'grey thumb's' book on houseplants. It comes complete with a phonograph record - not a record to play for your plants but one to play for yourself - if you play it when your plants are listening, they may or may not get stronger and greener (my Asparagus Fern loves it!).

Plantcraft is a book on Total Gardening understanding and caring for your plants is another dimension of caring about your home. There is a lot of basic information in the book about helping various house plants adjust to your home from their former greenhouse environments.

September is a good month to start thinking about indoor gardening and Plantcraft is a good way to C.C.

A BEVY OF BEASTS, by Gerald Durrell, Illustrated by Edward Mortlemans. Simon & Schuster. New York. 1973. 253 pp. \$7.95.

Gerald Durrell knew from an early age that he wanted to be a collector of animals - to have a zoo of his own. A Bevy of Beasts is about his apprenticeship in zookeeping at England's Whipsnade Zoo - one of the first "open" zoos, designed with the breeding and preservation of the animals in mind.

The reader meets all the animals in Whipsnade through Mr. Durrell - a cantankerous lion named Albert, a loveable tiger, a wombat (a racoon-like dog), a zebra stallion that's as "calm as a baby", a gentle giraffe whose best friend is a goat, a herd of friendly yaks and a silver fox with a broken leg to mention a few of the members of Durrell's animal family. He describes their habits, personalities and histories with affection.

A Bevy of Beasts is a charming book for animal lovers of any age and the pen & ink illustrations by E. Montlemans are an added bonus to the book.

Mr. Durrell has founded a zoological park in the Channel Islands and has created a Wildlife Preservation Trust - a form of stationary Noah's Ark. The Trust's intention is to try and save certain species of animals from extinction. I wonder if he would like an apprentice? C.C.

CALENDAR continued from page 3

MORRISVILLE - 9th Annual Pennsbury 13,14,15 16 Manor Americana Forum, Topics: American Pottery, Furniture Conservation, Horology, Prints and Print Making. Reservations are necessary. Write or phone 946-0400.

14,15 TREVOSE - Annual Fall Flower Show, sponsored by the Trevose Horticultural Society, in the Strawbridge-Clothier Auditorium in Neshaminy Mall. THEME: What Was, What Is, What Ever." Friday, 3:30 to 9 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 5

p.m. For information call 945-8731.

14.15,20 BUCKINGHAM - Town and Country Players 21,22,28 will be presenting "Forty Carats," in the 29

Players Barn, Route 263, Curtain 8:30 p.m. PLEASANT VALLEY — The Pleasant Valley 15 Riding Club will sponsor a Square Dance, 8 p.m. at Pleasant Holl Farms, Route 212 and Slifer Valley Road. In case of rain, it will be held indoors in the Arena; the Club suggests wearing sneakers rather than sandals as the floor is sand. Tickets - \$1.00.

ERWINNA - Square Dance will be held in the 15 Tinicum County Park, River Road (Rt. 32). Evening.

QUAKERTOWN - Annual ARTS FESTIVAL 21,22 sponsored by the Quakertown Historical Society, at the rear of the Liberty Bell Delicatessen, 1313 W. Broad.

NEWTOWN - Country Fair, Bucks Co. Associ-30 ation for the Blind, Route 413, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Entry \$1.00 per car. Raindate October 7th.

1-30 NEW HOPE - New Hope Historical Society will open the Parry Mansion to the public for tours. Wed. thru Sat. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday 2 to 5 p.m. For further information call 862-2105

SELLERSVILLE - Walter Baum Galleries, 1-30 Main and Green Streets (Old Route 309) will present a continuing art and sculpture show. House: Daily 1 to 5 p.m., except holidays for

the nation.

WASHINGTON CROSSING - The Platt Col-1 - 30lection (birds, nests, eggs and photographs) will be on display to the public in the Wildflower Preserve, Bowman's Hill, Washington Crossing

State Park, 1 to 4 p.m. Daily.

PIPERSVILLE — Stover Myers Mill, Dark 1-30 Hollow Road, 1 mile north of Pipersville. 1 to 5

p.m. Weekends. Donation.

ERWINNA — Stover Mill, River Road (Rt. 32). 1 - 30Open weekends only 2 to 5 p.m. Free 16th Annual - Showing of the original machinery The Stover Grist Mill over the Labor Day Weekend. Other weekends featuring Donald Hedges - Paintings. 1-30

ERWINNA - John Stover House in Tinicum Township - Open weekends only 1 to 5 p.m.

Donation.

Southampton - Churchville Outdoor Educa-1-30 tion Center Activities for the month of September -757-4005. 2,9,16,23,30 - Sunday Family Programs - 2:30 p.m. 8 - Bike Trip -Call for Information. 15 - Field Trip to Hawk Mountain - Call for Information, 19, 26 -Adult Nature Craft Course - Call for Information. 22 - "Nature Wonders" - Moonlight Walk, 9 p.m.





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CALENDAR continued from page 29

1-30	NEW HOPE - New Hope-Ivyland Railroad
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	thru the heartland of Bucks County between
	New Hope and Buckingham Valley. For infor-
	mation and schedule call 862-5206 or write
	P.O. Box 267, New Hope, Pa. 18938.

WASHINGTON CROSSING - Narration and

Famous Painting, "WASHINGTON CROSSING THE DELAWARE", Daily 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Memorial Building at ½ hour intervals. Daily film showings, tentative and subject to change.

1-30 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Thompson-Neely House, furnished with pre-Revolutionary pieces, Route 32, Washington Crossing State Park. Open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission 50¢, includes a visit to the Old Ferry Inn.

1-30 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Old Ferry Inn, Route 532 at the bridge. Restored Revolutionary Furniture, gift and snack shop where Washington Punch is sold. Open daily 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission 50¢, includes a visit to the Thompson-Neely House.

1-30 WASHINGTON CROSSING — Taylor House, built in 1812 by Mahlon K. Taylor, now serves as headquarters for the Washington Crossing Park Commission. Open to the public 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

1-30 MORRISVILLE — Pennsbury Manor, the recreated Country Estate of William Penn. Original Manor House was built in 1683. Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays 1 to 5 p.m. Admission 50¢.

1-30 FALLSINGTON — Burges-Lippincott House, Stagecoach Tavern and Williamson House — 18th Century Architecture. Open to the public Wednesday thru Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Admission — Children under 12 free if accompanied by an adult.

1-30 BRISTOL — The Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Museum, 610 Radcliffe Street. Victorian Decor. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 1 to 3 p.m. Other times by appointment.

1-30 PINEVILLE — Wilmar Lapidary Art Museum. The Country's largest private collection of hand-carved semi-precious stones. Open to the public Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Admission 50¢.

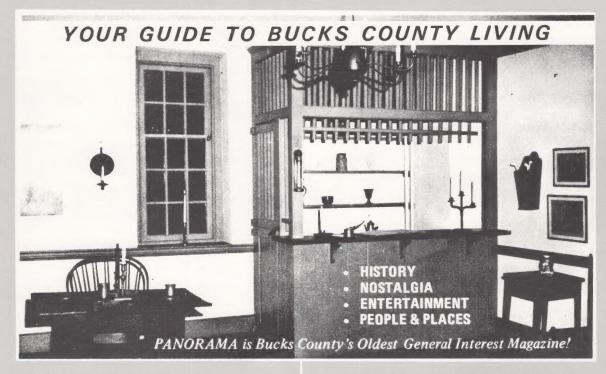
1-30 DOYLESTOWN — The Mercer Museum, Pine and Ashland Streets. Hours: Sundays 1 to 5 p.m., Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. CLOSED MONDAYS. Admission. Special rates for families and groups. Groups by appointment

1-30 DOYLESTOWN — Moravian Pottery and Tile Works, Swamp Road (Rt. 313) north of Court Street, Sunday Noon to 5 p.m., Wed. Thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission. Group Rates.

1-30 NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP — National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa Ferry Road, Guided tours — Sunday 2 p.m. Other tours upon request by reservations, phone 345-0600. Shrine Religious Gift Shop open 7 days a week 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free Parking, Brochure available.

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